

Filed for intro on 02/04/98

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 439
By Miller J

A RESOLUTION to encourage the Oilers' owner, Bud Adams, to
adopt a new and more fitting name for the
Tennessee team.

WHEREAS, Governor Don Sundquist, members of the General Assembly, Nashville
Mayor Phil Bredesen, the Metropolitan Nashville council, the Nashville and Memphis business
communities, and the citizens of Tennessee have given unreservedly of themselves to procure
Tennessee's first National Football League (NFL) franchise; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, the dream became a reality, and Tennessee became the home of
one of the nation's most esteemed NFL teams, the Oilers; and

WHEREAS, although the legacy the Oilers' name leaves behind is great, an
overwhelming majority of Tennesseans desire a name change for our state's team to something
more native and descriptive of the Oilers' new home; and

WHEREAS, a name change will not affect the Oilers' great history, as their tremendous
franchise legacy will live forever in the hearts and minds of many; a name change will instead
represent a new stage in the life of this notable franchise; and

WHEREAS, in Nashville alone, a Vanderbilt University poll found seventy-six percent of
residents express strong sentiments in favor an Oilers' name change; and

WHEREAS, with a new home state, an incredible new stadium underway and a new fan
base for the team, we feel it is appropriate to survey the people of Tennessee, choose an

600000000

60000000

010992

01099235

exciting name from the viable options that will represent our state well, and change the Oilers name accordingly; and

WHEREAS, the Baltimore Ravens provide us with a perfect example of the spirit and enthusiasm a name change can elicit; we can create similar excitement in our state by officially changing the name of our first NFL franchise team; and

WHEREAS, team owner, Bud Adams, said in October 1997 that he is interested in what the people of our great state have to say, and he is open-minded about a name change; we should clearly encourage Mr. Adams to listen to the voices of Tennessee Oilers' fans and choose a unique and appropriate nickname for our state's team of which we can be proud; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby urge Tennessee Oilers' owner Bud Adams to change the name of our state's first NFL franchise team to a more memorable name embraced by the fans and a name that well represents our great state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.